

June 13, 2017

DOH-PINELLAS LIFTS ADVISORY FOR FORT DE SOTO'S NORTH BEACH



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The Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (DOH-Pinellas) has lifted its advisory for the water at Fort De Soto's North Beach based on the marine water bacterial indicator recommended by the EPA.

DOH-Pinellas conducts saltwater beach testing through the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program. Water samples are analyzed for enteric bacteria (enterococci), that normally inhabit the intestinal tracts of humans and animals, and which may cause human disease, infections or rashes.

The presence of enteric bacteria is an indication of fecal pollution, which may come from storm water run-off, pets, wildlife and sewage. The purpose of the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program is to determine whether Florida has significant beach water quality problems.

This is the water testing result from tests conducted on June 12:

ENTEROCOCCI	ENTEROCOCCI
CFU per 100 ml*	Water Quality*
4U	Good

Water quality classifications are based upon the EPA's recommended standard for enterococci of no more than 70 colony forming units per 100 milliliters of marine water.

For more information about the Healthy Beaches Monitoring Program, go to <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/beach-water-quality/county-detail.html?County=Pinellas&Zip=33701-3109>.

For information about DOH-Pinellas, go to <http://pinellas.floridahealth.gov/index.html> or follow us on Twitter [@HealthyPinellas](https://twitter.com/HealthyPinellas).

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